

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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44

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 MC-02 ACDA-07 EB-07 TRSE-00 L-03

AID-05 IGA-02 OPR-02 A-01 MED-02 PPT-01 SCA-01 CU-02

/080 W

----- 082239

P R 191340Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO USCINCEUR//PRIORITY

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 5389

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2454

FOR GENERAL HUYSER FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: USLOK-KUWAIT

REF: (A) USCINCEUR 171739Z MAY 76 (NOTAL)

(B) KUWAIT 2418 DTG 180830Z MAY 76

(C) KUWAIT 2419 DTG 180831Z MAY 76

(D) KUWAIT 2420 DTG 180832Z MAY 76

1. I LIKE YOUR PROPOSED LETTER TO GENERAL MUBARAK CONTAINED REFTEL A, BUT BELIEVE A SLIGHTLY REVISED VERSION WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL AND BETTER RECEIVED IN, PERHAPS, ONE-WEEK'S TIME. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR TDY PERSONNEL AT GREAT LENGTH AND AT ALL LEVELS WITH MOD. THE KUWAITI'S SIMPLY DO NOT ACCEPT OUR EXPLANATION OF THE NEED FOR AND UTILITY OF TDY PERSONNEL. THEY ARE PREPARED TO WAIT--SIX MONTHS, OF NECESSARY--FOR PCS PERSONNEL, THEY ARE CONVINCED THAT TDY PERSONNEL COST TOO MUCH AND ARE OF ONLY LIMITED VALUSE.

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2. IF YOU ARE AGREEABLE, I WOULD PREFER TO DELAY SENDING YOUR

LETTER UNTIL WE HAVE REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GOK ON A SUPPORT PACKAGE (SEE BELOW). ONCE THE MINISTER AGREES TO SIGN A MODIFIED VERSION OF CASE (AAA), WE CAN AGAIN HIT HIM ON NUMBERS AND THE VALUE OF TDY INTERIM SUPPORT. YOUR LETTER WILL BE EXTREMELY USEFUL AT THAT TIME IN PROVIDING NECESSARY ARGUMENTATION. WE WILL KEEP YOUR STAFF APPRISED OF DEVELOPEMENTS AND RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE MODIFICATIONS TO THE SUGGESTED TEXT BASED ON THE SITUATION EXISTING AT THAT TIME.

3. REFTTEL B, C AND D REPRESENT OUR LATEST RECOMMENDATIONS TO DOD FOR OVERCOMING SOME SERIOUS GOK RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE WORDING AND DETAIL CONTAINED IN THE LOA'S ON USLOK CURRENTLY HELD BY THE GOK. WE HAVE BEEN IN FREQUENT TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION WITH ISA ON THE PROBLEM. OUR KUWAITI FRIENDS HAVE FINALLY RECOGNIZED THAT THEY MUST ACCEPT US PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS, BUT THEY WANT TO FUZZ THIS AND AVOID SPECIFICS IN WHAT WILL BECOME PUBLIC DOCUMENTS. BASICALLY, WHAT THE KUWAITI'S NOW WANT IS AN LOA WHICH SIMPLY CITES AN OVER-ALL SUM (ABOUT \$1 MILLION) WITH THE USG DRAWING DOWN THAT MONEY REQUIRED TO SUPPLY PERSONNEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED USG REGULATIONS AND PRACTICES AND KUWAITI DESIRES. ALL DOD PERSONNEL IN KUWAIT WILL FALL UNDER THE EMBASSY UMBRELLA AND UNDER CONTROL OF CHUSLOK AND THE AMBASSADOR PER OUR APRIL 15, 1975 FORMAL AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, FOR COSMETIC PURPOSES, WE HAVE STRESSED IN THE PROPOSED REFERENCE DOCUMENT THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO GOK MINDEF. IN DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE INDICATED OUR DESIRE TO MOVE USLOK OUT OF THE EMBASSY TO MOD AS SOON AS LOA (S) ARE SIGNED. (IN FACT, WE ALSO WILL RETAIN OFFICES IN THE EMBASSY COMPOUND FOR CHUSLOK AND NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL).

4. ADMITTEDLY, OUR PROPOSED COURSE IS NOT THE BEST ONE FROM OUR STANDPOINT, BUT IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT IT MAY BE THE ONLY ONE THAT THE GOK WILL ACCEPT WITHIN A REASONABLE TIMEFRAME. BY CONTINUING TO INSIST ON PRECISE NUMBERS (TDY AND PCS) AS WELL AS PRECISE COSTS WE ARE, IN EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT, UNLIKELY TO GET A SIGNED AGREEMENT AT AN EARLY TIME. EVEN IF THE GOK DOES NOT AGREE IMMEDIATELY TO ADEQUATE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PERSONNEL, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT ONCE USLOK IS ESTABLISHED AND OPERATING IN THE MINISTRY THE GOK WILL AGREE "TO REQUEST" NECESSARY SUPPORTING AND SUBSTANTIVE STAFF INCLUDING, HOPEFULLY, TDY PERSONNEL.

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5. IF OUR MOST RECENT PROPOSALS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO DOD, I HAVE SOME HOPE THAT WE CAN OBTAIN SIGNATURE ON AN LOA FOR A PERMANENT USLOK STAFF BY EARLY NEXT MONTH. ONCE THE GOK PRINCIPALS LEAVE KUWAIT, NO AGREEMENT WILL BE POSSIBLE BEFORE LATE SEPTEMBER.

MAU

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